

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Official Business



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Pennsylvania

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APRIL 2003

Dear Friend:

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your representative in the United States Congress. Periodically, I will be sending you a newsletter with updates on my activities in Washington, DC and here at home in Pennsylvania. In this edition, I would like to take the opportunity to explain the best way for you to contact me to express your opinion on federal legislation or to seek help in working with a federal agency.

Every day my office receives scores of phone calls ranging from requests for assistance in resolving problems pertaining to federal agencies to opinions on federal legislation. Information on what services my office can provide to you is included in this newsletter.

There are a number of issues important to Pennsylvania that I intend to work on in Congress. Two of the most important issues to the 17th District are transportation infrastructure and agriculture. I am proud to be the most senior member from Pennsylvania to serve on both the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Agriculture Committee.

I am interested in knowing what issues are important to you and your family. I have included a check-off list that you can request more information on Congressional action on various legislative issues.

Please do not hesitate to contact one of my offices to request help or share an opinion on a federal matter.

Best wishes,



TIM HOLDEN
Member of Congress



Congressman Holden presented a \$500,000 check to Schuylkill County Commissioner Chairman Forrest Shadle and John Sninsky, Schuylkill Transportation System (STS). Of the \$500,000, \$400,000 will be used to acquire four new replacement buses for the STS fleet and \$100,000 will be used to initiate the first phase of the Union.

Federal Forms

If you are in need of federal forms, my office can provide you those forms. Just a few of the most requested forms:

- Internal Revenue Service (yearly tax filing forms)
- Passport & Birth Certificate applications
- Request for copy of military discharge and/or records
- Copyright & Trademark applications
- Application for federal student loan assistance

Service Academy Appointments and College Loans

I am pleased to extend an opportunity for students to apply for a nomination to either the Air Force, Military, Merchant Marine, Coast Guard or Naval Academies. Applicants must be a legal resident of the Seventeenth Congressional District; must be 17 years of age and will not have reached 22 years of age by June 1 of the year appointed to enter the Academy; must have completed high school before entering.

My office also has student loan applications and other information for college bound students.

IRS and Postal Issues

My office can help you if you are having problems with the Internal Revenue Service, whether it be settling disputes or just cutting through IRS red tape. We can also help with your local post office if you are experiencing problems with your mail service.

Senior Citizens

Medicare — My office can help you cut the red tape and solve reimbursement problems. We also can help you determine what services are covered and provide information about Medicare programs.

Social Security — Having problems with your benefits? We can help speed overdue payments for disability, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and survivor benefits.

Veterans

My office can assist you in determining the benefits that you are entitled, such as:

- Pension and/or disability compensation benefits
- VA home loan guaranty applications

United States Flags

My office can provide you with a United States flag. There are a variety of sizes and prices you can choose from and you can also have your flag flown over the Capitol building. Order forms may be picked up in my local offices or downloaded from my website. For flags flown over the Capitol please give as much advance notice as possible.



Congressman Holden presented a \$250,000 check to the Mayor of Lebanon, Robert A. Anspach. The federal funding will be used for building renovations as part of "Operation Fight Blight."

Supporting Our Troops

The decision to go to war with Iraq was a serious and solemn one. When the President determined that military action was necessary, Congress came together as one team, united in one fight. There were no Democrats, no Republicans, just Americans united in support of our president and the 250,000 brave military personnel who are deployed in the Iraqi region.

I am proud to stand behind our courageous men and women in uniform who bear the burden of this military action. All of us are deeply grateful for their patriotism, their courage and the sacrifice they are willing to make.

I have been contacted by many of my constituents who want to know how they can participate in supporting our troops. Listed below are some web sites I encourage you to visit where you can show your appreciation to our men and women in uniform.

- Send a greeting via e-mail through Operation Dear Abby at <http://anyservicemember.navy.mil/>.
- Sign a virtual thank you card at the Defend America at <http://www.defendamerica.mil/>.
- Support the American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services at <http://www.redcross.org/services/afes/>.
- Support the Army Community and Family Support Center at <http://www.armymwr.com>.
- Support the Navy Fleet and Family Support Division at <http://www.bupers.navy.mil/pers66>.
- Support the Air Force Crossroads at <http://afcrossoads.com/home.cfm>.
- Support the Marine Corps Family Readiness Conference at http://deploymentlink.osd.mil/news/jul01/news_71301_001.shtml.



Congressman Holden announced \$738,000 in federal funding for the Muhlenberg School District for high speed wireless labs, technology education labs and technology education facilities improvements. Left to right: Mark Nelson, President of the Muhlenberg School Board; Dr. Joe Yarworth, Superintendent, Muhlenberg School District; Congressman Tim Holden.

- Support the Coast Guard Ombudsman at <http://www.uscg.mil/mlcpac/iscseattle/pw/ombudsman.htm>.
- Support the National Guard and Reservist Components at <http://www.ngb.dtic.mil/staff/family/>.

The Department of Defense has requested that those who send mail use the service member's full name (with or without rank or rating), unit and APO/FPO (Air/Army Post Office or Fleet Post Office) address with the nine-digit ZIP Code (if one is assigned), and a return address. For packages, mailers are asked to print on one side only with the recipient's address in the lower right portion.

Please send me news on Congressional Action on the following issues:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dairy• Conservation• Rural Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Crime | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medicare• Prescription Drugs• HMO Reform/
Patient Bill of Rights | |

OFFICES TO SERVE YOU

Berks County
Berks Corporate Center
280 Corporate Drive
Reading, Pennsylvania 19605
(610) 916-6363

Dauphin/Perry County
SRBC Office Building
1721 North Front Street, Suite 105
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17102
(717) 234-5904

Lebanon County
47 South 8th Street
Lebanon, Pennsylvania 17042
(717) 270-1395

Schuylkill County
101 North Centre Street, Suite 303
Pottsville, Pennsylvania 17901
(570) 622-4212

Washington, D.C.
2417 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5546

www.holden.house.gov

◆ HOTLINE NUMBERS ◆

IRS-Taxpayer Advocate	(877) 777-4778
Financial Aid Information	(800) 433-3243
Federal Student Aid Information Center	TTY (800) 730-8913
Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services	(800) Medicare (800) 633-4227
Small Business Administration	
Small Business Answer Desk	(800) 827-5722
Federal Trade Commission	(877) FTC-HELP
Consumer Help Line	(877) 382-4357

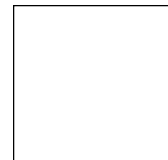


Congressman Holden recently held a press conference to announce \$262,000 in federal funding for the Harrisburg Polytechnic Institute. Pictured left to right: Gerald Kohn, Superintendent of the Harrisburg School District; Stephen R. Reed, Mayor of the City of Harrisburg and Member of the Board of Directors; Dr. Melvyn Schiavelli, Acting President/CEO, Harrisburg Polytechnic Development Corporation; Congressman Holden; Sheila Dow-Ford, Senior VP/Chief Counsel, PHEAA and member of the Board of Directors, Harrisburg Polytechnic Clinic.

Please print clearly

Name: _____

Address: _____



Congressman Tim Holden
 2417 Rayburn Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515